

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Institute of Standards and Technology

JAN 12 2003

Ms. Lisa Johnson, Paralegal
Zelle, Hofmann, Voelbel, Mason & Gette, L.L.P.
1201 Main Street
Suite 3000
Dallas, TX 75202

Dear Ms. Johnson,

Enclosed is the final document relating to your April 17, 2002, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request (FOIA Log #02-56) to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) for: copies of all documents from September 11, 2001, to the present (April 20, 2002 – date of receipt of FOIA) related to the NIST's investigation of Seven World Trade Center – New York, New York 10048; and for documents relied upon by the NIST in performing its investigation.

The enclosed document was originated by or pertained to an outside entity. This document was forwarded to that entity to obtain its comments as to the releasability of the document. Exemption (b)(4) of the FOIA ((5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4)), exempts "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and are privileged or confidential". A total of five pages were deemed privileged or confidential as permitted by exemption (b)(4) and have been withheld from disclosure.

As to the information that is being withheld from disclosure, you have the right to appeal this determination within 30 calendar days of the above date to:

General Counsel
U.S. Department of Commerce
Room 5870
Washington, D.C. 20230

Your appeal should include a copy of your original request, a copy of this determination, and a statement of the reasons you believe this determination to be in error and why this material should be made fully available to you. Both your letter and the envelope in which it is mailed should be prominently marked "Freedom of Information Appeal."

As you know, NIST is conducting the building and fire safety investigation of the World Trade Center disaster. This investigation is estimated to take 24 months. During the course of the investigation, NIST will maintain a website (<http://wtc.nist.gov>) to provide information on its investigation to the public.

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| CONTROL# FOIA02-56 WTC | | WRITER: S. Rumpf | |
| SURNAME | DATE | SURNAME | DATE |
| M. Rubin | 1-15 | | |
| S. Cauffman | 1/16 | | |

official file copy

Should you have any questions regarding the documents provided or your request please contact me by telephone at (301) 975-4054, or by e-mail at sharon.bisco@nist.gov, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Sharon E. Bisco
Freedom of Information Act Officer

Enclosure